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Pontiac June the 4/65

Ever dear friend.

Do forgive me for not answering your letter sooner but I have some very good reasons for not waiting which are too numerous to mention, do forgive the past & I will do better in the future.

We had another storm here last Sunday week, it was not as bad as the one we had some time since, I suppose you

heard of ~~that~~ one, I was at Mrs Fairhams
Sunday evening when the storm came
on. Mrs Fairham was not there no one
but Mrs Fairham the girls & myself no
one was much frightened except little
Fannie, Mrs & Pa were in town they
took dinner at Mrs Fairhams & had will
started to Laramie they stopped at the
Mc Carrs it took the Buggy away
down our place in town where Mrs
Shiller live this year, I hope we
will come back in a year or two
Pa I dont think is satisfied
in the country & it is so lonely for
Ma & go home whenever I wish
which is nearly every Friday. Oh!
Bell we are to have a large party
here to morrow night I do not
expect to go for I am going home
to stay all week we are or going to
have holiday, I wish you were
here to spend holiday with me
we have so many raspberries & cherries

Pa
ones
we
Bowler
to see
will
the
anxious
since
Bell
dont
pleas

Pa brought me some such nice
ones yesterday sugar & cream in abun-
dant measure as we have so much since
we ^{have} got in the country. Fannie
Bowlamer was here the other night
they to see me, I expect her & Ber-
nard will say here the night of
the party as Fannie Heron is very
very anxious for them to stay Aunt
Mae Ginn is going from here. Will
tell I must stop Oh! goodness
don't look at my writing if you
please or write soon Good bye
Shollie Ek

Oak Grove June 18th 1855

Dear Edmond

I received a letter from Benjamin He says that Wallace's estate is very much in debt owing from \$17,000, to \$20,000 Dollars and that he has come to the conclusion to get an order of court and sell all of the Negroes to pay the debts and for a division He wants your sister and me to go in and be at the sale of said property and purchase such Negroes as I want, He does not inform me how many or what kind of Negroes they are. He offers \$2500⁰⁰ for the farm and says that is as much as it is worth he does not state how many acres it contains nor what land is selling for per acre should you know please inform us how many acres and what it is worth per acre. Also what kind of Negroes there is to be sold

He says that his wife has been sick for eight weeks and was very little better when he wrote.

My corn is tolerable good considering the drought cotton some in bloom and some just up having the appearance of a replanted crop

My health has not been good since last fall. My family is enjoying good health and am in hopes these few lines will find you and yours enjoying the like blessing Lydia and the children send there Love to you and ^{Ella & niece} accept the same from your friend and Brother John L. Gurr

Wachuckama
Jun 19



Mr Edmond D Bray

Memphis

Ten

Woodford, June 27.th 1855.

My Dear Sir,

Yours of the 30th May is just at hand and I am truly glad to hear that your warrant was not lost. It will relieve your best of mothers of much anxiety to be informed of it, which do by all means in your first letter to her.

I have looked on the map to ascertain your location but do not find it. My map was published in 1846. You are settled in the same town with my old friend Sam Houston. I hope you will cultivate his acquaintance. He helped me to get the law through for your mother's benefit. I have a good many relations in your state which if you meet, I would be glad you would also to cultivate their acquaintance, they may be useful to you. Gov. Russell is a cousin of my late Father, he and his nephew Dick Russell have been at my house in Washington. Dick, I believe, is a member of the Legislature, some letters have passed between us and I sent him documents last Congress as I shall hereafter

send to you. My youngest brother Franklin resides
in North Eastern, Texas, Linden is his post office, the
County I do not know, but suppose it to Bowie. You
and he were born within 8 miles of each other but
my father removed to near Bolivar in Hardeman Co. Tex.
in 1830, and you never saw him. R. W. Martin, one
of the Clerks of the Legislature is from Winchester, he
is now a lawyer, you may meet him. I think he resides
in Henderson. My uncle John Williams' family settled
near Clarksville many years ago.

I have not the law or any form for an application
for the balance of land due under the act the 3^d March
last. A simple authenticated affidavit "that you
are the identical person to whom Bounty Land warrant
No. 57. 201 for 80 acres was issued on the 3^d Feb'y last for
your services as Lieutenant in — 's Company, and
Regiment Commanded by Col. J. P. Anderson: that you
have disposed of said warrant, and you now have no
control over it; that you make this declaration to avail
yourself of the benefit of the act of 3^d March 1857"
is all that is required.

J. A.

We would like for you to visit us this
~~this~~ summer if you can make it convenient
with Eliza and her niece.

Answer this as soon as you can make it
convenient and oblige your friend & brother

J. L. Gurr

After a long drought we have had a refreshing rain, not enough though it is now cloudy and thundering as if we should receive more. The Lord send it! Today I have spaded the ground around my young apple grafts and pears. I have a little nursery for amusement and to get in stock of some fine varieties of fruits. I have about 30 acres in orchards, and will plant 2 or 300 hundred trees more next season. I have the finest orchards in the State, and will I think take the silver Cup again at the State Fair at Richmond this year. My peach trees are loaded with fruit and this one of the best paying crops in this country - I have about 500 bearing, and nearly as many apple trees - My oldest boy wants to study medicine - he is a promising boy, and by the time he and his brother are capable of managing their farms I want to have them well stocked with orchards - The best improvements are on the youngest boys - They can start in life with about \$20,000 worth of property apiece.

Yours friend

J. A. Anderson.

A. C. Williams.

Falls Church Va
June 25

Pris 3

John A. Anderson Esq
attorney at Law.

Kentville
Texas

I put Shoolie & c
in to help pay Smith
New sewing March.
C. 18/6

Book of the
the Lord

$$\begin{array}{r} 1000 \\ 2000 \\ \hline 3000 \\ 2000 \\ \hline 5000 \\ 2000 \\ \hline 7000 \\ 2000 \\ \hline 9000 \\ 2000 \\ \hline 11000 \end{array}$$





\$29 $\frac{37}{100}$

Memphis, Tenn. July 14th 1855

On the 1st day January after date, I promise to

Pay to the Order of BARNETT GRAHAM,

of Twenty Nine & $\frac{37}{100}$ DOLLARS

Value received.

Memphis

~~Without Recourse~~
Barnett Graham

~~Without Recourse~~

Recd of Ed D Bray two Hundred and three
dollars awarded to me by persons chosen for the
purpose on July 21st 1855 this being in full
of the amt allowed

Asa Bell

Ara Bell,
receipt-

1855



Miss Joe H. Edmondson
Holly Springs
Mississippi.

Phoebe sends love, she is improving
a little

There are two such dear sweet letters
from you for me to answer and
how almost unkindly I have re-
sisted by indulging my low spirited
moods. I am so much so for and I
suppose this greatly owing to my situa-
tion, for often and again I have
thought of visiting home, because I
thought that knowing for me to
write thus home! But with regard
to Mother coming - even if she
could come don't let her try if
there is the slightest possible danger
of Yellow Fever! It is in Houston
only one days travel from here
also in New Orleans, so she
could not come this route without
incurring considerable risk and then
too there might be some danger from
her coming the land route you will
all know but at home and if she

could come without missing my sick
would be a blessing indeed for me
to have her but if she cannot come
I will not be alone, God will give
me strength and my husband his
own birds and ~~any~~ horses, however if
there could be no danger of Yellow
Fever, this trip would prove beneficial
to Mother & Minnie too. I must
hurry and finish now but intend
writing home again the last of this
week ~~and~~ ^{my} week now.

I'll send Helen she shall have
the next one and kiss my one
at home for me. God bless you
my one and you for quit having
Neuralgia, have the tooth drawn
that produces it for I will soon
make you look older than
anything else. I write you like
a dear sweet sister should.

Ever your own devoted Sister Mary
August 22th '85
The Triples

edging and no account edging - everything is plain
and coarse. If Mother could count but no
I will not ask it now although if
my last hour comes, how nothing life become
she has rented a house in town and we
go to it the 10th of September. There is a great
deal to be done and how I wish you could
be here to help me in my disabled condition
My darling boy

Last night your & dear Helen's
letters came and one from Jimmie, the first
since Brother's death. Oh how thankful how
truly thankful I was to hear from home
once more, his seldom nowadays that I
have such a pleasure. I don't blame you all
at home for I know your hearts are true
that you are loving me still with all my
faults and I have many thousand to forgive
you could scarcely know me for to be with
me I feel so changed. I always had an
unhappy temper and now I feel that his
from the same than ever. I am far from
being well and have had so much to
do ^{with my body} that sometimes fear I am becom-
ing misanthropic. I feel sometimes as

nicked, impatient and troubled that I cannot forget the whole world and pray as I ought. I never was made to live so far away from those I love the best in the world but I know I must try and learn and feel that this world is not my abiding place. If I only had one of you with me it seems that these feelings would never come over me but then for I know I do! I must try to be a Christian alone. When my hour comes I must die alone, no one to go with me to that cold dark grave with me. For my darling you don't know anything of the realities or actualities of life until you are a married woman. My dear dear brother what would I not give for a long talk from you this evening. I feel more and more convinced every day of the many little things I might have been spared could I have been with you this summer. I have had no one to advise me as you would have done in

have with it the books that he
has again sent back to
London and will be
sent to you soon.

My dear Sir

Your kind letter came yesterday. I now wish we had of gone to Mississippi, but it is too late. Molly thought her Mother would come out, and wrote requesting you to do so. Soon after which time the yellow fever broke out in both Houston and New Orleans. It would be risking too much to travel the route at this time. Dear Molly seems to be so strong, that I cannot but think, all will be right during her confinement. We move into town day after tomorrow. Have rented, at \$11.50 per month, quite a comfortable house - have good yard and garden spot, together with Cow lot. The house has three good rooms, with a sort of piazza, between it and the kitchen, for a dining room. We will probably board three or four College Students after a while. Take them I mean as day boarders. This institution, of which Rev. Daniel Baker formerly of Holly Spring, is President, has over one hundred students; - the Law School connected with it, some 12 or 15. The latter was first organized since we got here. Huntsville is improving, and will I think always be the literary town of Texas. - The Society is

certainly better than usual in the towns of this
State. I have only written to you about
Aunt Mary and our home because I think
it will interest you most. Molly will fill
up the letter.

We treat the nothings handsomely, and
I think played Old Sam Houston forever. He
is in town now, making preparation to move
back home. I sincerely hope McKim will beat
Charley Fontaine 1200 in Miss.

Give my best love to all. All are

Yours truly

Jno. K. Anderson

Dear Mother, I have left this for you to fill out
and I am so glad I have scarcely time for busy
making complete. Don't take this dear letter as an
answer to your dear sweet letter which you are
so anxious to see. I will certainly get you
from. I am not so much surprised to hear of
your folks marriage after the last letter I got
from you as when that Charlotte told me that
Nathaniel had addressed her and of the Mrs. W.
opposition &c. &c. determination seems to many
of us any family that did not consider him equal
to the best of them. Don't hope Ed. W. will
make her a good husband and I mean not
in mind, yet there have been many objections
in my heart to him all of which I have
expressed to Soph by letter since we came out.

and expect I have done many many
things for which I will suffer.
With regard to Magnesia I have eaten a
great deal of it and for the last four
and weeks (in consequence I suppose) have
not had a natural action from my
bowels. 'Tis not often any one talks and says
nothing with regard to myself but when they
do I try to profit by it. With regard to sleeping
then with any ease on my head this my most
natural position. Exercise I have taken
none at all scarcely, because I have no
doubt many of exercising, walking is so unpleasant
in the sand here but I have been advised
to take a great deal. I will try to do all
that others have told me to do. I will never
do more if I know and can help it.
I feel and know that the cheerful com-
pany of those that know and understand
one could have done one more good
than anything else, however I have been
in my room alone most of the time.
Sister Beth has had so much to surpress



Mr. A. J. Edmondson.
Holly Springs.
Mississippi.

1855

1000

Jas. A. Slaps

1501
341
343
313

Jas. A. Slaps

myself not to write to them any more,
don't forget now. Fannie has forgotten too!
Love to them all and Miss Laph. Mollay.
Where is the old President now? Don't
you remember the Sunday evening
before Commencement? What a fun B. &
Allen and I had? How often I think
of it. I told Father and Mother all about
it and they did not like it one bit. We
hear that Fannie has broken out in
Memphis if so it will be in N.Y.
I presume, of course. Tell little George
Walthall I have not forgotten him -
and remember me very kindly to
Mr. W. and Miss Fannie K. He has
just come in, and says she thinks
you might as well answer her
letter, as not; that is - if you are going
to do so at all. I have not seen how

(Dear me what a blot! can you excuse
it? I did not see it until I turned over
I can't write a letter over to some one) or
Alice for a long time, they are in
the country. We never go out of the
yard, as children I mean, Father is going
all the time. Often I lose the day
of the week, can scarcely tell
Sunday from any other time. I will
finish this tonight or in the morn-
ing. Goodbye. I have been sick all
night. But got up this morning. Give my
love to your mother, and Miss Joe.
and Helen when you see them. He sends
love to them all. I will name Lillie's Mother
Mrs. Jessie, Joe's father, and your John Jones.
Tell Lillie I am mighty sorry Nell fell down
and hurt himself so. He ought not to walk
in his sleep any more. What are you
taking lessons from on the Piano, and
who is the teacher on the Guitar? Tell Lillie

6 miles very soon. I am
 sending this letter with
 it. But you must not let
 see it; you know. To him you
 who sits in my old seat -
 let any one see this please. I
 particular reason, why. I
 do not want any body to do as
 day. Three months ago, I was
 all in Memphis. I have seen
 does seem like a very long
 one. Does it to you? Back! The
 killing! Mr. Williams. The
 minister is dead. When
 scoundrel pass from us. I will
 you Beth, of the suffering
 in our midst. It is enough
 should be in it. I have
 family have fallen. I wish
 I wish you



am so lonely. I am glad you are
in our old room. Do you ever
think of us. We have had jolly times
in that old room, haven't we? Does it
look like it need too? "Our dear old room"
I will come up as soon after frost
as possible which I do not expect will
be long - as we had to have fires, both
^{yesterday} and today. Where is Miss Soph now?
Give her my very best love when
you see her - she owes me a letter,
what I have been looking for long,
and anxiously - Ask her why she doesn't
write. As to old Jessie, and Louchie, I
suppose they do not wish to hear from
me again, so tell them that I want
to hear from them once more, any
how; for the sake of "huld lang syne"
and if they will write, I will pledge



Wm. Bell, Edmondson -

St. Pleasant -

Wm -

her time. She is very kind, all are kind
but it is so pleasant to have persons under-
stand you as my own home-folks do.

Tell Mother I have suffered so much with
those old suffocating spells and sometimes
in the night my feet and hands freeze me
so much I can scarce keep screaming
from being so much swollen. Oh how
you may just thank me, but I am obliged
to write this way to Mother for I know she
would like to know all and more than
I can tell her. I dread my approaching
trial a great deal and have consented
to promise to please bring Mother if she
can possibly come that she may be with me
but even now I reproach myself for
so doing fearing the risks of leaving the
Gibson's. But that they might run. The more
I ask don't let that precious Mother run
any risks in this way. Tell her I can
do bravely without her. Oh if I only lived
near her where I might see and hear her
talk every day. It does make me come
near little things. I can get nothing in
this place that is at all decent, no little

On the 1st of Jan 1856 I promise to pay James Johnson
one Hundred dollars for value received this
Oct 16th 1855

E.

you never from the pleasure of seeing such melody like
looking paper as this. I expect your eyes were expanded
and then full with smiles, when you opened it, and
with a "La! what a long letter" put it in your pocket
to read of it a while. I do not know how to fill the
space up for I have nothing to write about but myself
and what a letter it would be! from long pages, ever all
about Lilli Bushole. I wonder like to see such a letter
perhaps if put in the "Mirror" it might make some about
as much as to I have been expecting the paper
for some time, some one in town makes to know if
they must expect all the packing from, and to one
person. I must then to take the paper. No more any
anything about it or any my last time in your room.
Does Amanda, and Lou Allen teach in the College? I
wonder like or much to see them, give my best love to
them both. What is Fanny doing with herself? I must
to Sophie a year or two ago but have not received an
answer to it. I do think she is the sweetest something
I have seen for a long time. I think about her so
often although I know that she has forgotten me long
ago - since I wrote mine to her again; would I but
hope that she would read with even half the pleasure
which I would write to her, she would bring you some
from your or your deal of love to her from me and
to her also, I send a letter to Lou yesterday from
her I know by the handwriting, and I wonder how
you and Robert to have seen in the girls one other
in the country, but I expect they will be in the

except myself, in the morning spending the day
I spent the morning reading and then here a nice
dinner all by myself, and I thought about you, and
wished you were with me on the train, and then I
went down under the oak tree under which I used to
and then I concluded to write a letter to you and
Ellen King I could scarcely take a decision which, but
I believe I concluded to write to "old Bruce", as a hint
I am rather in any letter room, (and I would show
it for you, but the thought of sending a drawing to
such a commission as yourself, would be doubly
absurd! and therefore accordingly, so also such ideas
were dispelled, ^{as soon as thought of} since you know that would be rather
disagreeable in the middle of the floor with my letter
standing before me writing such a nonsensical
letter for Sunday evening. (Yes it is Sunday evening and
a more delightful evening I never saw. I do not hear
a voice of a living thing, (except - Lou Polina, my pet
hen who is on the gallery) - now is there scarcely a
breath of air sufficient to keep up a gentle whispering
among the leaves over ^{the chimney} ~~there~~ is before my window
and the whole earth seems saturated with innumerable
blessings, poured down from the hands of Him who is
all power and love. I declare I almost forgot saying
and I know you will be sure of reaching such a letter
but if you will only give it a smile of welcome, I
will feel fully compensated for writing it. I should
perhaps from the air of the paper ^{the tone} my correspondence
at Franklin College generally is in - to me one, and

E B Brays
donate
\$100.00

Last of this week I have been thinking of you
and how much I have lost - quite lately now, but some time since
my recovery. Death has indeed taken many from our family,
when I last wrote to you ^{several} ~~many~~ had died - and since
that Mother's youngest brother has died, I was indeed so
greatly afflicted, for he was as much loved by us all, as
you know he was, until he was taken, as he died on his
plantation on the Georgia river, he was brought down, and
died in May before yesterday - I must go over now and
finish my work, and I will finish tonight - Night - I am
rather again trying to write although it is rather different
to do for Sir John and I am not making much, nothing on
the floor I can accurately do it - I have just finished
writing some minutes, ~~the~~ thought now I must I could
write with you - I must now to see Sir John and I will
hurry get away for the children I have to take out to
walk over our river because Aunt Ellen as he calls me
my sister of Cousin Ellen - would not bring him home
and when I was on the street, I met a gentleman, that
looked so much like the poor fellow that lives there
in Holly Springs, only he was not quite so ragged. I
knew the other day that he had professed religion, &
we are expecting it now so - Yesterday I took a walk and
saw Josephine Jewell, she looks just like she always did,
I think Joe has some excellent qualities, but others that
brought him in great deal - John Bland has been in the
country all the summer and has not returned yet - Sir John
is in here, and she sends her love to you I have been
sleeping with me - I am sure, when it is over - No



70

Miss Belle B. Edmondson -

Franklin F. College -

Holly Springs -

Miss -

Via Memphis

Oak Grove Nov 20th 1835-

Dear Edmond

I received yours of 3^d Sept informing me that you had received a letter from Benjamin ~~inform~~ stating that the sale of Wallis & Negroes would take place between 15th of Oct and 1 November.

I sent to the office a letter to you on the day I received yours ~~your~~ informing you how many Negroes there was and that I expected to attend the sale and should had I have known at what time the sale would take place. I have received no communication from Benjamin since the 14th August which was before he obtained an order of court to sell the Negroes. I had made my arrangements to attend the sale and wrote to you that I would attend to any business I could for you Mr Daley informed me that before he left Currituck he saw the advertisements set up for the 12th day of November six months credit

I wrote to you to let me know whether there was any good schools in your neighbourhood you will please inform me and at what distance they are from you we are anxious to get Thos & Wallis to a good school and would prefer sending of them in the country to of Town. We have been expecting of you for the last 2 months. We are all enjoying good health except your sister whos health is rather feeble at present. Lydia and the children send there love to you and Eliza and accept the same from your friend an Brother

John L. Lewis

Should there be a good School in your
neighbourhood let know ~~whether~~ if it
will be convenient for you to board them or
at what price I can obtain board in the
neighbourhood and oblige your Friend & Brother
John L. Scurr

I have been so long in waiting for an answer from you, which you have chosen to me in writing, and at times to me in writing for a response. I have been expecting to hear from you for several days, and am still waiting and hoping, but "after all" says my fellow perhaps the greatest lesson, which the lives of various persons teach us, is to be in a single word: Wait! I flatter myself that I have learned it in part, that is when applied to some of my correspondents, (now I do not mean you) I never was so much disappointed in my life about a letter, as I was several weeks ago. I was lying in bed sick, when Esther came in and handed me a letter, and you may guess how glad I was to see it on the opening it. I found it was a prospectus or something of the kind from the Reverend Benjamin Capron. I would have sent an article often but that night if I could I would do so. I wish you were here with me this evening indeed I do. I am all alone in my glory if there is any particular glory about it. Not a soul in this house or on the place - the colonel goes over today on all at church - and all of the family

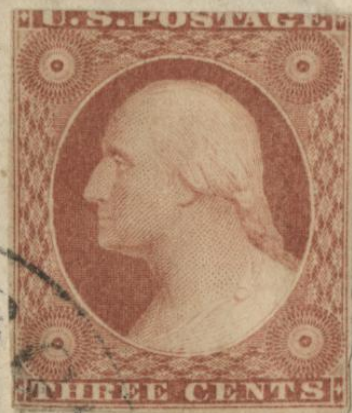


Mrs. A. J. Edmondson
Holly Springs
Mississippi

This envelope
contains a letter
which John Adair
Anderson wrote my
grandmother Mary Howard
Edmondson when my
little sister Minnie
was born on Nov. 7, 1855.

Samuel B. Williams

On or before the first day of January next
I promise to pay G. S. Bell or bearer the sum
of two hundred & thirty two dollars & five cents
for value received of him. Witness my hand & seal
November, the 28th 1855.



Miss Belle Edmonson
St. Louis

Willie & Lillian
in coming
home. Christine
can't you come
with him.

Rome - Nov 28th / 55.

I see, Belle, that you are trying
to stop writing to me, but if
you do, it won't be my fault,
for I will bother you so that
you will be obliged to write in
self defence. I will not ask you
why you have not answered
my last letter for I expect you have
an excuse that would answer,
In the first place, let me tell
you that I saw all of your Wicksburg
friends last week, but as it was
at church I did not have a long
chat with them, they were well and
looking as charming as ever -
Have you heard that Lillian Brown

was married a few days ago
to a Mr Smith. Engenia was
Bridesmaid, but Susan did
not have an invitation and
of course staid at home, do you
expect she forgot me, Oh no, I
flatter my self that my invitation
was lost on the way. Was yours
lost too? What do you think?
I received a letter from Lou
Castles inviting me to come
and spend the winter with her,
but as I ~~was~~ looking ever day
for you I could not leave
home. Have you heard from
Brother lately? I got a letter last
night he was well & I expect will
go to H-L Christmas, Now dont
you let him stay one minute
over his time & make him
behave himself as I use to do -

Tha
-us
-ed
she
Lin
have
cant
your
I ha
to
Jan
certain
If I
there
be a
a pr
were
from
ago,
Thom
a bit
Fellie

Thanks dear Belle for your kind
- guess to Kuti, she said she enjoy
- ed herself very much - I hope
she was not too wild -
- I'm all alone, & what is worse
do you have no one to sleep with me,
can't you take pity and make
your visit soon Now do
I have been thinking of going
to New Orleans the last of
January but do not know for
certain whether I will or not,
If I go I hope I will meet you
there - I expect Eugenia will
be over soon & I hope to have
a pleasant time I wish you
were with us - I got a letter
from Joe & Annie a few days
ago, she was well & writes as
though she had not changed
a bit, I have not heard from
Fellie in some time, have you?

Ma says tell Belle that she was
always a favorite of hers but
since you have been so kind
to Kate that she loves you more
than ever. Your horse sake
is well & is the finest horse in
the country. That bad weather, it
is enough to give anyone
but me the "blues" but you know
I never have them. When are
you going to start to school -
or have you concluded to stay at
home. Belle is afraid I'm
going to be bald for my hair
is coming out so fast. Give my
love to Ellen & if she will let
you kiss her for me. Love
to your Ma, Pa, & Sisters, where
is Mr Eddie, Do you ever hear
from Dick, Claudie, - Make Kate
and write to your troublesome
Friend, Sue Vailen,

One Month after date we or either of us
promise to pay C. S. Hamilton the sum of
(\$23) Twenty three, dollars for value received;
bearing ten per cent interest from date until
paid-

This the 15th day of Dec. 1855.

Jno. S. Hudson

R. A. Camp.

Huntsville, Nov. 22nd 1855-

Dear Mother

Our little Girl is now more than
four days old - She is growing finely, &
gets prettier every day - Molly had a
bad cold previous to her confinement
which has produced a Cough that gives
her some trouble. However, I hope she
will soon get over it.

We were much disappointed that
you did not come out to Texas, but I
hope we will all be together again next
Spring and Summer.

The Baby's name is "Mary Leonard
Anderson" - after you - Give our best
love to all - all - I write this
note in great haste, as I barely have
time to get it in the mail that leaves
to night.

Yours Truly

Jno. L. Anderson

Recd of Wm. A. Anderson the sum of Twenty
 Three dollars and sixty cents in full of Principal
 and Interest this 7th January 1836.

W. W. Wilson

787
 9316
 20-86

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Do write to me often - Such a Christmas as this will
be compared to the last one we spent together -
How do write to me, my own darling Sister
often. Bless you all. I feel like I have been
crazy since I commenced this letter
at marriage

December 31st/55
Your devoted Sister Mary

My own darling Joe

It seems long and has been very
long since I last wrote you and little did I
think the last letter I wrote that my next one
would be to acknowledge the receipt of one con-
taining tidings so terrible so unexpected so distress-
ing - Poor dear darling Soph! How how much
I have to mourn beside her loss for you
will be surprised now to hear that I had
not written to her since her marriage
and had never heard one word except
that which you could write me from home
Oh Joe - how little how petty and trifling
do the things appear now which prevented
my writing to her compared to the deep
and abiding loss of a life time for I always
loved Soph in spite of the little inconsistencies
of which it sometimes seemed to me she was
guilty. I always loved her and just before I
read Confined sit down and write her a
long long letter which I afterwards burned
regretting the good impulse which I had given

every to in writing it. She is now gone and I feel that all earthly opportunities are passed. I feel that if I can live in such a manner as to meet her in Heaven then may I tell her things, for I can't begin to tell you how much I felt, even now I feel stupefied. It seems as if that my feelings are torpid and expressions be there is nothing, so as when near me for the and signification of my grief. I can't realize I don't long begin to realize the truth of it and know you I never can feel the full force of our loss at home until I again approach that dear home when that we have all been so happy together. How can I know the loss of happy home in which so many blessed hours have been and passed with dear Sophie and our precious mother's place vacant. The full realization of so sad a truth is before me. Should a kind Providence permit me to be at home again. I shall know nothing of the gloom occasioned by their death until I am there in your midst. I feel stupefied and frozen up. There is no attendance for feeling. I hope you will write me everything you hear with regard to the particulars of her illness and all that you have heard with regard to her since her marriage. Has she ever written home to you or later since? How I long to be at home with you all once more, notwithstanding the sad sup. of that home there will be much that nothing in this world privilege to me.

not make this request. I am obliged to wear
Corsets all the time now and find they are a
great convenience and I have only one pair
Till Mother after the dear little babe comes home a
week or two after its birth I shall have such an
appetite in my life and never looked so well
or felt in such good health, but since I
came out here I've taken cold some how
and have had Diarrhea which has reduced
my healthy looks somewhat. I wish you could
see the dear little baby yet. Her hair is so long
and a beautiful brown and curls even now. She
has dark blue eyes which I think will be black
they are formed exactly like Mr. A's, has a sweet &
pretty little mouth a prettily formed hand & foot
but rather - one very small, is 21 inches tall
and weighs 9 pounds, she has a very bad cold
now, but has been so far unusually healthy
She is mighty good, lies on the bed nearly all the
time and imagine her now lying there now
as good and sweet as can be with the dress and
apron both made of my old (good coloured) muslin
wrapper, she has only three dresses and they are all
coloured. Let me now thank you in her name for
the sweet little Clock & hood and the dear Christmas
Robe you have made for her which garment I hope
she will be spared to wear when I go home. She sends
sweet kisses to Grand Pa, Grand Ma and all her
precious Aunties ----- Give my best love to
all at home. and tell Kate and Helen I wish
write to them soon



Miss Joe H. Edmondson.
Holly Springs.
Mississippi.

me and We will start home about the 1st of May, not sooner
passed I mean and oh how I wish it could be to stay
or if I have to come back to bring you all with
little me for in our Father's wisely merciful but
how many deeply afflicting providences I feel that
it seems as though to be near each other that we may
be strengthened and comforted by sweet affections
in this and sympathy from hearts that have been so
long and truly kind.

know You will possibly be surprised to hear that we are
now back at Col Murray's again, as we only visited the house
when that we were living in central Christmas.

How Col Murray was going to be absent for some time
in having left for Memphis last Sunday morning
and Sister Bell is always so lonely and disappointed
when he is away from home that we yielded
to their earnest solicitations and came to stay
during his absence. I had some things to send
you and Kate by him, but I didn't see him
until just as he was starting and didn't know
he was going so soon consequently they were not
ready. I will bring them. I hope you may see
him yet cannot feel certain that you will. Remember
if you do to treat him very kindly for he and
Sister Bell have done many acts of kindness to
your dear Sister Mary and for which I would
have them know our own dear family are not
ungrateful. If you have an opportunity of seeing
him will you please send me a pair of those
Rail Road Cassettes by him. Tell Kate to send me
her old ones. I can't get any here or I should